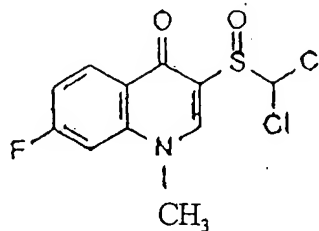


CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A composition comprising 3-dichloromethylsulfinyl-7-fluoro-1-methyl-4-quinolone.

2. A composition having the chemical formula:



3. A method, comprising:

a) providing:

i) thionyl chloride;

ii) pyridine; and

iii) 3-chloromethylsulfinyl-7-fluoro-1-methyl-4-quinolone;

b) reacting said thionyl chloride, pyridine, and 3-chloromethylsulfinyl-7-fluoro-1-methyl-4-quinolone under conditions such that 3-dichloromethylthio-7-fluoro-1-methyl-4-quinolone is produced.

4. A method, comprising:

a) providing:

i) 3-dichloromethylthio-7-fluoro-1-methyl-4-quinolone;

ii) dichloromethane; and

iii) m-chloroperbenzoic acid;

b) reacting said 3-dichloromethylthio-7-fluoro-1-methyl-4-quinolone, dichloromethane, and m-chloroperbenzoic acid under conditions such that 3-dichloromethylsulfinyl-7-fluoro-1-methyl-4-quinolone is produced.